

NOTES ON A FEW SPECIES OF PACIFIC COAST CERAMBYCIDAE

By HUGH B. LEECH¹

Anoplodera laeta (LeConte)

The only published host record listed for this species by Swaine and Hopping (1928:53) is *Quercus Garryana* Dougl., given by Hardy (1926:C29; and p. 6 in the reprint). However, it was recorded from "Dead *Quercus agrifolia* and *Quercus* sp." by J. J. Rivers (1886a:71; 1886b:67; 1886c:7), and from the branches of dead *Quercus agrifolia* Néc.) [sic], as *Septura laeta*, again by Rivers (1887a:73; 1887b:11).

On February 7, 1955, at Mill Valley, Marin Co., California, I found a dead adult in its pupal cell in chinquapin, *Castanopsis chrysophylla* (Dougl.) A. DC. [Fagaceae] which had died in the fall of 1953. The cell was under the bark at and just below ground level (*i.e.* at the level of the duff, not the mineral soil), in a tree having a diameter of 12.5 cm, at 38 cm. above the ground. Three *A. laeta* larvae were recovered, and the remaining wood brought indoors and caged; eight adults emerged during March and April.

Necydalis laevicollis LeConte

Linsley (1940:277) wrote that "This is the only North American species of *Necydalis* known to attack coniferous trees" and cited *Picea*, *Abies*, *Pseudotsuga*. On the next page he placed records of this species from non-conifers (Hardy and Preece, 1926:37) as misidentifications of *N. diversicollis* Schaeffer. This may apply to Rivers' listing of "Decayed oak, *Quercus agrifolia*, and in dead *Eucalyptus globulus*" (1886a:71; 1886b:67; 1886c:7), but an example of true *N. laevicollis* from the Ralph Hopping collection is labeled "McDonalds Wood, Victoria [B.C.], X.16.-1925. G. A. Hardy. In dead Alder stump." Mr. Gordon Stace Smith of Creston, B.C., who is familiar with both species, wrote (letter of June 22, 1957) that he has one *N. laevicollis* from Gordon Head [near Victoria], *ex* "caged willow" (G. A. Hardy), and nine from Wellington, B.C.. "reared from *Arbutus*" (R. Guppy).

On August 24, 1930, on the campus of the University of British Columbia at Vancouver, I took a number of dead *Necydalis laevicollis* from the outer ends of their tunnels in a log of *Alnus rubra* Bong. They had failed to gnaw their way out through the last millimeter or two of bark, after leaving their actual pupal cells.

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The two species are readily separated on the characters given in Linsley's key (1940:272):

- "5. First segment of posterior tarsi slender, at least one and one-half times as long as remaining segments together; antennal tubercles acute above; fourth segment of antennae distinctly longer than scape; elytral apices dehiscing gradually from basal one-third. 15-20 mm. Pacific Coast from British Columbia to northern California (p. 276) ----- *laevicollis*
- First segment of posterior tarsi robust, about as long as following segments together; antennal tubercles obtuse above; fourth segment of antennae subequal in length to scape; elytral apices dehiscing gradually from apical one-fourth. 13-20 mm. Rocky Mountains and Pacific Coast from British Columbia to southern California (p. 278) ----- *diversicollis*"

Linsley divided *N. laevicollis* into two subspecies, *N. l. laevicollis* LeConte (rufous coloration, with only the eyes and mandibles dark; occurring along the Pacific Coast from British Columbia to Plumas County, California; type locality, "Vancouver's Island."), and *N. l. seminiger* Linsley (black, usually with the elytra brownish and the femora rufous; along the coast in southern Oregon and northern California; type locality, Crescent City, California).

In the southern part of their range one is thus coastal and the other from the interior, but in the north they come together, as is to be expected. Three British Columbia examples before me are by definition *N. l. seminiger*: two from Hunter Creek, Restmore, 19 and 20.VII.1938 (E. C. Van Dyke); and one from Annis Bay, Nelson Island, 31.VII.1927 (L. V. Hopping). The one specimen now before me from my Vancouver *Alnus rubra* series is perhaps dark enough to be *N. l. seminiger*, but since it died before emerging from the wood, the coloration may not be normal.

All this suggests either that there is still some confusion in the records as non-coniferous wood. More host-associated specimens are needed! for *N. laevicollis*, or that the larvae are able to utilize coniferous as well

***Necydalis cavipennis* LeConte**

Linsley (1940:275) summarizes the host records as "*Quercus, Eucalyptus, Alnus, Heteromeles.*" Chemsak (1958:41) records *Quercus agrifolia* Née. I have seen the following additional material: Seventeen specimens from Novato, Marin Co., California, June 21-July 4, 1957 (E. L. Kessel), reared from *Quercus agrifolia* Née. One from Mill Valley, Marin Co., June 7, 1957 (H. B. Leech), reared from a dry, standing, fungus-infested dead *Quercus Wislizeni* var. *frutescens* Engelm. of 65 cm. diameter. Larvae and pupae (adult reared) from Mill Valley, in a wet, rotting log of *Lithocarpus densiflora* (H.&A.) Rehd., May 26, 1957 (H. B. Leech).

Phymatodes aeneus LeConte

Recorded from Douglas fir, *Pseudotsuga taxifolia* (Lamb.) Britt. (= *P. mucronata* Raf.) from the vicinity of Victoria, B.C., by Hardy and Preece (1927a:190; and with fuller data in 1927b:65-66). I have seen specimens reared from western hemlock, *Tsuga heterophylla* Sarg. at Vancouver, B.C., June 12 and 27, 1939, by W. G. Mathers.

These coniferous hosts, in the northern range of *P. aeneus*, are strangely at variance with its known hosts along the coast of central California. At Mill Valley, Marin County, I have reared it from dead hazel, *Corylus californica* (A. DC.) Rose, from wood showing the emergence holes of at least one previous generation; judging by the sizes of larvae present a life cycle takes more than one year in *Corylus*. I have reared it also from *Castanopsis chrysophylla* (Dougl.) A. DC., and from *Quercus Wislizeni* var. *frutescens* Engelm.; for the the latter record see Leech (1955:40). All emergences were in March, April and May; field captures in the same area were in May and June. The beetles from conifers in British Columbia do not appear to differ from those taken at Mill Valley, California; Dr. E. G. Linsley has examined them and agrees with this statement.

Holopleura marginata LeConte

First reported (as *H. helena* LeConte) from the dead twigs of *Umbellularia californica* (H. & A.) Nutt. by Rivers (1886a:71; 1886b:67). Not knowing of his papers, I recorded it from the same host (1955:40). I have reared it from branches still attached to the trees, dead, dry and from 7 to 12 mm. in diameter; from similar branches on the ground; and once from a small rotting ("punky" stage) log of 8 cm. in diameter. Emergences were in March and April; field collections in the same area are for April, May and June, but I have also cut fully matured adults from their pupal cells in mid-September.

Triodoclytus lanifer (LeConte)

An adult emerged on March 23, 1957, from a dead stem of chaparral pea, *Pickeringia montana* Nutt., from Mill Valley, Marin Co., California. I have taken an adult on the trunk of a dying *Ceanothus thyrsiflorus* Esch. in July, so this may also prove to be a host plant.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

It is a pleasure to thank Miss E. M. Alexander of the Documents Department, the General Library of the University of California, Berkeley, for her help in identifying the articles by J. J. Rivers.

LITERATURE CITED

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- RIVERS, J. J. 1886a. Contributions to the larval history of Pacific Coast Coleoptera. *Bulletin of the California Academy of Sciences*, 2 (5): 64-72. (Published April 23, 1886.)
- 1886b. Contributions to the larval history of Pacific Coast Coleoptera. *Annual Report of the Secretary to the Board of Regents of the University of California for the Year Ending June 30, 1886*. The State Printer [James J. Ayers], Sacramento, California. [The article by Professor Rivers is on pp. 63-69; a second article by him finishes p. 69 and completes p. 70. Despite the similar title, parts of the text differ radically from that of the previous item (*e.g.* under Chrysomelidae, Melandryidae, *Polycaon confertus* from Napa Valley, announcement of the rearing of a female of *Zarhipis riversi* Horn, etc.). The date of publication is given only as 1886, but Miss E. M. Alexander of the Documents Department at the General Library of the University of California, Berkeley, writes: "Since the letter of transmittal for the Report of the Secretary is date June 30, 1886, it is unlikely that the type was set previous to that date for this printing of the publication." To the best of my knowledge this paper has not been cited previously in entomological literature.]
- 1886c. Contributions to the larval history of Pacific Coast Coleoptera. The State Printer, Sacramento, California. [This is a separately published edition of the previous item. It has a cover, a separate title page, and the whole is paged 1-9 (p. 1 is the title page, p. 2 is blank; there is a second article by Rivers on pp. 9-10). It differs from the one in the above Annual Report to the Secretary in the lay-out of pp. 5-8, resulting from the removal of a printer's signature "5¹⁴" which is at the foot of page 65 of the Annual Report printing. Since it otherwise has the appearance of an author's reprint, I am presuming

that it was issued after the original volume; but it could have appeared as a preprint. It is the first item under "Rivers" in the bibliography to Leng's Catalogue of the Coleoptera of America, North of Mexico.]

———— 1887a. The oaks of Berkeley and some of their insect inhabitants. Annual Report of the Secretary to the Board of Regents of the University of California for the Year Ending June 30, 1887. The State Printer, Sacramento, California. [Miss Alexander notes that this was first read as a paper before the Berkeley Scientific Club on March 12, 1887. It comprises pp. 67-74 of the Annual Report.]

———— 1887b. The oaks of Berkeley and some of their insect inhabitants. The State Printer, Sacramento. [Like the 1886c item listed above, this is a separate publication, in the general form of a separately paged reprint. It has a cover, a title page (= p. 1, page 2 being blank) and is paged 1-12. The title page is the same as the front cover, but lacks the ornamental border, just as in the 1886c item. The lines of type are spaced further apart in the reprinting, so that the same text covers two pages more than in the 1887a item, above.]

SWAINE, J. M., and RALPH HOPPING. 1928. The Lepturini of America north of Mexico. National Museum of Canada, Bulletin No. 52 (Biological Series, No. 14). 97 pp., incl. pls. I-XIII.

MICHIGAN STATE LIST IN PREPARATION

Work has begun on a list of the insects, arachnids, and other land arthropods of Michigan. Preliminary records of about 17,000 species and about 85,000 individual county occurrences are on hand. These will be supplemented from all reasonably available sources, typed, and revised by specialists before final typing and publication. Assistance from interested persons is requested. Definite locality records with authentic determinations, determiners for material on hand that is still unnamed, specialists to advise on taxonomic arrangements and nomenclature, and in some areas workers to take entire responsibility for the manuscript on taxonomic groups in their specialties, all are needed.

It is planned to have a typed copy of available records in the hands of specialists by January, 1960, and a manuscript for final typing ready by January, 1962.

Specialists so far agreeing to take sections of the manuscript are as follows: Frank Ammerman, Rhynchophora; T. H. Hubbell and Irving Cantrall, Orthoptera; J. H. Newman Macrolepidoptera except butterflies; David Shappirio, Mutillidae; George Steyskal and Curtis Sabrosky, Diptera; Henry Townes, Ichneumonidae, Stephanidae, Gasteruptiidae, Evaniidae, Trigonalidae, and Roproniidae; W. Miller, Staphylinidae, Heteroceridae; Roy Shenefelt, Braconidae; Richard Bohart, Vespidae, Sapygidae; Floyd Werner, Meloidae, Anthicidae, Aderidae (= Englenidae, Xylophilidae, Hydrophilidae); Richard Selander, Rhipiphoridae; Paul Kanno, Formicidae; Lewis Stannard, Thysanoptera; Warren Atyeo, Mites (Bdellidae); William Bickley, Chrysopidae; Herbert Ruckes, Pentatomidae, Scutelleridae, Cydnidae; M. Nielson, Butterflies; Justin and Fannie Leonard, Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera and Trichoptera; R. Crabill, Centipedes, Millipedes; T. J. Spilman, Tenebrionidae.

R. R. Dreisbach is general editor of the list and responsible for all groups not assigned to others. Address all general communications to Mr. Dreisbach, 301 Helen Street, Midland, Michigan; communications concerning special groups to the responsible specialists.

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